

They put on the bride seventeen garments, a silk one and a muslin one alternately; then a mantle over all, and a rug on the mantle, and all possible ornaments.<sup>1</sup> Flinders Petrie thinks that we must recognize a principle of "racial taste," "which belongs to each people as much as their language, which may be borrowed like languages from one race by another, but which survives changes and long eclipses even more than language."<sup>2</sup> The cases given show that ideals of beauty are somehow formed, which call for a deformation of the human body. The foreheads are flattened, the lips enlarged, the ears drawn down, the skull forced into a sugar-loaf shape, the nose flattened, etc., to try to reach a form approved by fashion. There is an ideal of beauty behind the fashion, a selected type of superiority, which must be assumed as the purpose of the fashion.

190. Fashion in other things than dress. As will appear below, fashion controls many, things besides dress. It governs the forms of utensils, weapons, canoes and boats, tools, etc., amongst savages. In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries there was a fashionable attitude or pose in standing for women, in which the abdomen was thrown forward. It is often seen in pictures and portraits.<sup>3</sup> It is inelegant and destitute of meaning. The Venetians were luxurious and frivolous, jealous and distrustful of women, and fond of pleasure and fashion. From the end of the sixteenth century a shopkeeper in the Mercerla adopted a custom of showing the new fashions of Paris on Ascension Day by means of a life-size doll dressed in them.<sup>4</sup> The Venetian women of that period wore patins, shoes with blocks underneath, some of which were two feet high. The

women were unable to walk without a maid on each side to support them.<sup>5</sup> Yriarte thinks that these patins were due to the policy of the husbands. When an ambassador, in conversation with the doge and his counselors, said that shoes would be far more convenient, a counselor replied, " Only too convenient!

<sup>1</sup> Pommerol, *Une Femme chez les Sahariennes*^ 243.

<sup>2</sup> *Smithson. Rep*^ 1895, 594.

<sup>8</sup> *Umschau*, IV, 789.

<sup>4</sup> Yriarte, *La Vie d'un Patricien de Venise*> 58. , 53.